



- 2 -

GERARD *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/064,057

In the Specification:

At page 133, please delete the abstract as filed and insert therefor the substitute abstract appended hereto as page 133.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims ~~1-5~~, ~~8~~, ~~10~~, ~~12~~, ~~16~~, ~~18~~, ~~20~~, ~~23~~, ~~41~~, ~~43~~, ~~46~~, ~~51-57~~, ~~61-66~~, ~~68~~, ~~71~~, ~~76~~, ~~81~~, ~~85~~, ~~87-90~~, ~~97~~, ~~102~~, ~~108~~, ~~110~~, ~~112~~, and ~~114~~, ~~116~~, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please enter the following new claims:

117. The method of claim 26, wherein said one or more nucleic acid sequences encoding one or more subunits of ASLV reverse transcriptase are contained in one or more vectors.

118. The method of claim 26, wherein said subunits are one or more α subunits.

119. The method of claim 26, wherein said subunits are one or more β subunits.

120. The method of claim 26, wherein said subunits are one or more β p4 subunits.

121. The method of claim 26, wherein said subunits are one α subunit and one β subunit of one or more ASLV reverse transcriptases.

122. The method of claim 119, wherein said β subunits form an ASLV reverse transcriptase comprising two β subunits.

123. The method of claim 121, wherein said α and β subunits form an ASLV reverse transcriptase comprising an α and a β subunit.

124. The method of claim 26, wherein said subunits are encoded by one or more nucleotide sequences contained on the same vector.

125. The method of claim 26, wherein said subunits are encoded by one or more nucleotide sequences contained on different vectors.

126. The method of claim 26, wherein said ASLV reverse transcriptase has a specific activity selected from the group of specific activities consisting of:

- (a) about 25,000 units per milligram to about 135,000 units per milligram,
- (b) about 25,000 units per milligram to about 125,000 units per milligram,
- (c) about 25,000 units per milligram to about 110,000 units per milligram,
- (d) about 25,000 units per milligram to about 100,000 units per milligram, and
- (e) about 25,000 units per milligram to about 90,000 units per milligram. --

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

26. (Once amended) A method of producing an ASLV reverse transcriptase having a specific activity of from about 25,000 units per milligram to about 140,000 units per milligram, said method comprising

(a) obtaining a host cell comprising one or more nucleic acid sequences encoding one or more subunits of ASLV reverse transcriptase; and

(b) culturing said host cell under conditions sufficient to produce said ASLV reverse transcriptase [subunits.] subunits,

thereby producing an ASLV reverse transcriptase having a specific activity of from about 25,000 units per milligram to about 140,000 units per milligram.

28. (Once amended) The method of claim 26, wherein said ASLV reverse transcriptase subunits are selected from the group consisting of one or more α subunits, one or more β subunits, and one or more $\beta p4$ subunits, of one or more ASLV reverse transcriptases, and derivatives, variants, fragments or mutants thereof having reverse transcriptase activity.

Remarks

I. Support for Amendments

The specification has been amended solely to delete the abstract as filed and replace it with the substitute abstract appended hereto, as required by the Examiner at page 2, section 1, in the present Office Action, so as to bring the abstract into conformity with the 250 word limit of MPEP § 608.01(b). Hence, this amendment to the specification does not add new matter.

Support for the foregoing amendments to the claims may be found throughout the specification. Specifically, new claims 117-125 correspond substantially to claims 27, 29-32,